its conservation, water and human waste management and such other matters.

(c) Promote better urban and rural settlements relevant to the Indian social, cultural and economic context and related to the life style of its people.

(d) Inculcate better awareness and sensitivity in regard to all aspects of creative human activity including the significance of art in habitat.

(e) Document all relevant information pertaining to habitat; human settlements and environmental issues.

(f) Advise and if needed, assist the Government in the formation and implementation of policies relating to habitat and human settlements.

(g) Promote education, research training and professional development on habitat and human settlement and environment related issues.

(h) Organise and promote conferences, seminars, lectures, public debates and exhibitions in matters relating to habitat, human settlements and environment.

(i) Offer awards, prizes, scholarships and stipends in furtherance of the objectives of the Centre.

(j) Cooperate and collaborate with other national or international institutions in the furtherance of the objectives of the Centre.

2. IHC is a private autonomous organisation and receives no funding support from the Government. The centre is managed by a Governing Council drawn from among its membership. The project is still under implementation.

Identification of earthquake prone areas

3929. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKAR DAVE:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified the earthquake prone areas in the Country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to set-up seismological observatories at these places;

(d) if so, the steps/measures taken in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the seismic zoning map published by Bureau of Indian Standards, the country has been divided into five seismic zones. Zone V is the most vulnerable to Earthquakes while the Zone I is the least. Zone V covers areas in Jammu and Kashmir. Himachal Pradesh, U.P. Hills, Rann of Kutch, North Bihar, entire NE region and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Zone IV largely covers the states of Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Union Territory of Delhi, North UP, Bihar, West Bengal, Sikkim, Parts of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Maharashtra. Rest of the country falls under seismic zones III, II and I which are comparatively less seismic.

(c) to (e) A network of seismological observatories is already functioning in these areas. New seismological observatories have been set up recently at Latur (Maharashtra), Bhubaneswar (Orissa), Sahibganj (Bihar), Machilipatam (Andhra Pradesh), Karaikal (Pondichery)

and Siliguri (West Bengal). More observatories are planned.

Drinking Water Projects in Flourisis Affected Districts of Andhra Pradesh

3930. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government have forwarded proposels for assistance for taking up drinking water projects in seven districts having problems of fluorides or brackash water;

(b) whether large scale cases of death on account of fluorisis have been reported in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken for early sanction of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of India has not received any such report from the State Government.

(c) does not arise.

(d) Action has been taken to process and sanction the projects in consultation with the State Government.

Vacant Quarters in Mandir Marg and DIZ Areas

3931. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Government quarters are lying vacant in J-Block, Mandir Marg and in whole of the DIZ area in New Delhi, for a long period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government would consider to allot those vacant Quarters at the earliest to the persons seeking accommodation for the last few years; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) no, Sir. However, sometimes general pool quarters which are offered for allotment are not accepted leading to an impression as if the quarters are lying vacant.

(b) and (d) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

Return of Kashmiri Migrants

3932. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether proper atmosphere has been prevailing in Jammu and Kashmir for the return of the Kashmiri migrants to the State;

(b) whether they have since started returning to the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) by when all the migrants are expected to be sent back to the State; and

(e) the efforts made for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) to (c) Due to various measures taken by the Government, the security scenario has changed as is visible from successful conduct of Lok Sabha Elections in J&K. The elections for the State Assembly are also being held in September 1996. This has helped creating a positive atmosphere in the State. There are encouraging signs, as in the month of June, 17 migrants including women, returned to their native places in Baramulla district.

(d) and (e) It is not possible to give a precise time-frame for the return of the migrants. As the willingness of the migrants to return is a necessary ingredient for the purpose, the Government would adopt the policy of persuasion and en-